

I oppose RM-10867 because I see no good purpose or outcome in yet another reduction in the license requirements for Amateur licensure. As it is, the written exams are quite simple and are further simplified by the fact that all the exact questions and answers are available before the so called "tests" are given. Currently, the only skills test is a very minimal Morse requirement that can be met by nearly anyone who puts forth a little effort to learn what is still a very useful communication tool for operation on HF. Morse code is certainly not obsolete when reliable long distance communication is desired.

The ARRL petition seeks to have all current Technician class operators be automatically upgraded to General class. I strongly oppose their idea on this. Applicants for General class should be required to meet the current written exam requirements to assure the desired level of technical competence.

Let's look for a moment as to why the ARRL wants to further simplify the license requirements. Let's face it, the ARRL is a business. They are basically a publishing house that would like to increase their sales by increasing the numbers of licensed Amateurs through yet another dumbdown of the license requirements. Although they claim to represent the Amateur population, the majority of licensed Amateurs are not members of the ARRL. I suspect that their interest in the current matter is mostly pecuniary.

I hope the FCC will keep meaningful license requirements in place for Amateur Radio so that it remains comprised of knowledgeable and skilled radio operators.

Individuals who chose not to put forth reasonable effort to EARN a license probably belong on Citizens Band.

Thankyou for the opportunity to comment.

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